Low power transmitters in the country

1013. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of low power transmitters to be set up in the country by the end of 7th Five Year Plan;

(b) what are the criteria being followed for selection of these centres for such low power transmitters;

(c) the total amount earmarked for this purpose during the 7th Five Year Plan period;

(d) whether the whole country is likely to be covered by T. V. net work; and

(e) whether Government have any specific programme for the same, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) On completion of the 7th Plan scheme of Doordarshan, the total number of TV transmitters of all categories (high power, low power, very low power and transposers) would be 423, out of which the number of low power (100 W) transmitters would be 236.

(b) Depending on the availability of resources, sites/locations of the transmitters are selected with a view to extneding coverage to the maximum possible population in a phased manner, with due priority to rural, hilly, backward, tribal; remote; sensitive and border areas.

(c) The VII Plan outlay of Doordarshan includes a provision of Rs. 148.64 crores for expansion of transmission facilities in the country.

(d) and (e) On completion of the VII Plan Schemes, TV service is expected to be available to about 82.8 per cent population of the country. Provision of TV service to uncovered parts of the country would depend upon availability of resources in the future plans of TV expansion.

Production of fruits and vegetable in the country

1014. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of fruits and vegetables in the country per annum;

(b) whether Government have drawn up any programme to increase the production of Horticultural Crops in the country;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) the amount earmarked during the Seventh Five Year Plan for the development of Horticulture in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No official estimates of production of fruits and vegetables are available. However, according to rough estimates, the production of fruits and vegetables was 235 and 340 lakh tonnes respectively during 1984-85.

(b) and (c) The Government has taken up a number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing production of Horticultural crops in the country. The important schemes are given below:

(i) Improved technology for quality apple production;

(ii) Package programme on Pineaple and banana;

(iii) Establishment of Elite Progeny Orchards;

(iv) Contingency plan for increasing vegetable production in drought/flood affected districts by distribution of vegetable minikits;

(v) Package programme for development of Cashewnut;

(vi) Integrated development of spices;

(vii) Schemes of the Coconut Development Board;

(viii) Schemes of the National Horticulture Board;

(ix) Assistance to Oil Plam India Ltd.

(d) An outlay of Rs. 33 crores has been provided for various Central Sector Centrally Sponsored schemes for the development of horticulture during Seventh Five Year Plan period.

Attack on AIR, Bangalore

1015. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some miscreants attack the All India Radio, Station, Bangalore and took over the broadcasting for a few minutes; if so, the details of the incident and whether Government feel that the AIR station was seized;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some of the employees of AIR were involved in this incident, if so, what action has been taken against them and whether proper screening of personnel is likely to be undetaken by Government; and

(c) the number of incidents of attacks on Doordarshan and AIR Stations that have taken place in the last one year and whether Government are concerned about the increasing trend of violent attacks on Government-owned media?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) On the morning of October 2, '88 about a dozen miscreants claiming to be members of the Kannada Ranadhira Pade (Kannada Warriors) forced their entry into the Studios of All India Radio, Bangalore. The miscreants who were armed with knives, toy pistols etc. assaulted staff on duty and thus succeeded in interrupting the transmission and in reading out a statement brought by them. The statement drew attention of the Kannadigas to the alleged domination of the Kannadigas by outsiders. On hearing objectionable material going on the air as well as some disorder in the transmission, the staff at the Transmitter immediately contacted the police. 13 persons were apprehended by the police and booked under Section 143, 147, 149, 448, 353; 393; 343; 506 of IPC and in addition Section 2(8) (A) of Official Secret Act. All of them were released on bail on 3.10.88 with the instruction that they will be required to produce themselves as and when required and during bail will not indulge in such activities.

(b) A Transmission Executive of All India Radio, Bangalore, who was among those apprehended, has been placed under suspension and has since been chargesheeted.

(c) The number of incidents of attack on Doordarshan and All India Radio Stations since October 87 is given in the statement annexed. (*See below*). The Government will view seriously any attack on Government media installations.

Statement

Incidents of Attacks on Doordarshan/AIR Stations

AIR Stations	Date of Incident
1. Bhopal	7.11.88
2. Bangalore	2.10.88
3. Srinagar	28.10.88
Doordarshan Kendras	
1. Bangalore	31.01.88
2. Srinagar	26.10.88
3. Hyderabad	4.02.88
4. Trivandrum	18.07.88
5. Calcutta	14.03.88 15.09.88
6. Delhi	29.01.88
7. LPTV Darjeeling	25.05.88
8. BPTV Kodaikanal	10.04.88